

Message Text

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SUBJECT: INTERNAL DEVELOPMENTS: MONTH OF DIALOGUE

SUMMARY: MONTH LONG "DIALOGUE" ON CODE OF ETHICS BEGUN,
WITH MINISTERS TRAVELING TO PROVINCES IN EFFORT GENERATE
SUPPORT. ENTHUSIASM, THUS FAR, APPEARS LACKING. SOCIALIST
PROSECUTOR CONTINUING INTERROGATE LEFTIST JOURNALISTS;
HAYKAL REPORTEDLY STILL FINDS HIS QUESTIONING A RELAXED
AFFAIR. AL AHALI MAY APPEAR AGAIN. PM, IN INSPECTION
CAMPAIGN DESIGNED IMPROVE PUBLIC SERVICES, FINDS CAIRO
CENTRAL RAILROAD STATION APPALLING. SALEM'S INSPECTIONS,
AND MINISTERS' "DIALOGUE" HAVING LITTLE IMPACT ON MIDDLE
CLASS BUT POSSIBLY MORE SUCCESSFUL OUTSIDE CAIRO. END
SUMMARY.

1. DIALOGUE. OPERATING UNDER UMBRELLA PM SALEM'S CENTER
PARTY, GOVERNMENT HAS BEGUN MONTH LONG NATIONWIDE "DIA-
LOGUE" LEADING TO JULY 22 ADOPTION "CODE OF ETHICS."
ALL MINISTERS APPARENTLY PRESSED INTO SERVICE: IN RECENT
DAYS MININT NABAWI LED DISCUSSION IN QALIOUBIYAH PROVINCE,
MININFO AL SAWI MET WITH UNIVERSITY FACULTIES, WHILE
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PRIME MINISTER SCHEDULED CONVENE UNION LEADERS JULY 7.

2. DEMOCRACY. SPEAKING TO AIN SHAMS FACULTY, AL SAWI
DECLARED THERE CAN BE NO DEMOCRACY WITHOUT MULTIPARTY
SYSTEM. CURRENT CAMPAIGN, AL SAWI SAID, LIMITED TO
CORRECTING "DEVIATION." FACULTY, REPORTEDLY, AGREED
FULLY. VARIOUS PROFESSORS CALLED FOR EXCLUSION OF PRE-

REVOLUTIONARY "CORRUPTORS," ADOPTION "CODE OF ETHICS," AND BANNING OF PARTIES ADVOCATING ATHEISM. ONE PROFESSOR ADVOCATED LIMITING NUMBER OF POLITICAL PARTIES TO TWO.

3. LEFT. SOCIALIST PROSECUTOR'S INTERROGATIONS OF FIVE JOURNALISTS CONTINUE. FORMER AHRAH CHAIRMAN MOHAMED HAYKAL HAD ANOTHER SESSION JULY 4; HIS QUESTIONING WILL RESUME JULY 10. (COMMENT: ACCORDING TO A RELATIVE, HAYKAL BEING ASKED HIS VIEW ON WIDE RANGE OF TOPICS AND HE RESPONDS WITH COPY OF ONE OF ARTICLES WRITTEN DURING PAST FOUR YEARS. IT IS REPORTEDLY ALL VERY RELAXED THUS FAR.) INVESTIGATION INTO ACTIVITIES OF HAMRUSH COMPLETED BUT NO DETAILS RELEASED. LEFT PARTY MAY MEET AGAIN JULY 9 AND DECIDE TO REISSUE AL AHALI, WHICH SUGGESTS CRITICS MAY NOT YET BE SILENCED.

4. SALEM TAKES THE TRAIN. AS PART OF SALEM'S ONGOING EFFORT TO ENHANCE PUBLIC SERVICES, PM VISITED CAIRO'S CENTRAL TRAIN STATION JULY 5. HE WAS SHOCKED. SALEM FOUND FILTH, DARKNESS, AND RUNDOWN CONDITION OF TRAINS APPALLING. SITUATION, HE UNDERSTATED, "IS NOT PLEASING." PRIME MINISTER TOOK PARTICULAR UMBRAGE AT FACT STATION HAS ONLY ONE TICKET BOOTH--SITUATION UNCHANGED FOR PAST 20 YEARS. SPEAKING TO AMBASSADOR LATER SAME EVENING, PRIME MINISTER SAID HE ASKED DIRECTOR WHY HE DIDN'T ADD LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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TWO OR THREE MORE TICKET BOOTHS. MANAGER REPLIED: "I HAD NEVER THOUGHT OF THAT." PAPERS REPORT SALEM DISCOVERED RAILROAD AUTHORITIES HAVE BEEN STOCKPILING SCRAP METAL -OR PAST 78 YEARS. THIS, AT SAME TIME GOVERNMENT HAS BEEN IMPORTING SCRAP FOR STEEL MILLS.

5. COMMENT: SO FAR AS WE ABLE TO DETERMINE, GOVERNMENT CAMPAIGN TO MOBILIZE MASS SUPPORT FOR CODE OF ETHICS NOT ENJOYING MUCH SUCCESS, PARTLY NO DOUBT BECAUSE JULY IS MONTH WHEN MOST MIDDLE CLASS EGYPTIANS ARE ON VACATION (EVEN MORE SO THIS YEAR, SINCE RAMADAN WILL PRECLUDE AUGUST HOLIDAYS). ADDITIONALLY, LACK OF RELEASED DETAILS RE "CODE OF ETHICS" MAKES IT DIFFICULT TO GENERATE SUBSTANTIAL INTEREST. WE SUSPECT, HOWEVER, THAT TRAVELING MINISTERIAL ROAD SHOW PROVING MORE SUCCESSFUL, THUS REINFORCING EGYPTIAN LEADERSHIP'S PROFESSED DISTASTE FOR CAIRO'S CRITICAL ELITE. EILTS

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